



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application Of: Alan Derek Dean

Group No.: 2642

Serial No.: 09/815,760

Docket No. 52308-1190

Filed: 03/23/01

For: **System for Constructing Electronic Mail Addresses**

CLAIM OF PRIORITY TO AND
SUBMISSION OF CERTIFIED COPY OF UNITED KINGDOM APPLICATION
PURSUANT TO 35 U.S.C. §119

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

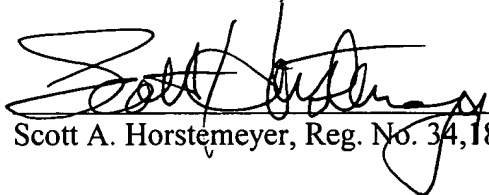
Sir:

In regard to the above-identified pending patent application and in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §119, Applicant hereby claims priority to and the benefit of the filing date of United Kingdom patent application entitled, "System For Constructing Electronic Mail Addresses", filed March 24, 2000, and assigned serial number 0007224.9. Further pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §119, enclosed is a certified copy of the United Kingdom patent application

Respectfully Submitted,

**THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER
& RISLEY, L.L.P.**

By:


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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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Cardiff Road
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NP10 8QQ



I, the undersigned, being an officer duly authorised in accordance with Section 74(1) and (4) of the Deregulation & Contracting Out Act 1994, to sign and issue certificates on behalf of the Comptroller-General, hereby certify that annexed hereto is a true copy of the documents as originally filed in connection with the patent application identified therein.

In accordance with the Patents (Companies Re-registration) Rules 1982, if a company named in this certificate and any accompanying documents has re-registered under the Companies Act 1980 with the same name as that with which it was registered immediately before re-registration save for the substitution as, or inclusion as, the last part of the name of the words "public limited company" or their equivalents in Welsh, references to the name of the company in this certificate and any accompanying documents shall be treated as references to the name with which it is so re-registered.

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Signed 

Dated 27 March 2001

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Patents Form 1/77

9. Enter the number of sheets for any of the following items you are filing with this form. Do not count copies of the same document

Continuation sheets of this form

Description	8
Claim(s)	2
Abstract	
Drawing(s)	2 + 2

10. If you are filing one of the following, state how many against each item.

Priority documents

Translations of priority documents

Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (*Patents Form 7/77*)

Request for preliminary examination and search (*Patents Form 9/77*)

Request for substantive examination (*Patents Form 10/77*)

Any other documents
(please specify)

11. I/we request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature

Date

24 March 2000

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

Mr Lee Anderson 0171 329 4400

Warning

After an application for a patent has been filed, the Comptroller of the Patent Office will consider whether publication or communication of the invention should be prohibited or restricted under Section 22 of the Patents Act 1977. You will be informed if it is necessary to prohibit or restrict your invention in this way. Furthermore, if you live in the United Kingdom, Section 23 of the Patents Act 1977 stops you from applying for a patent abroad without first getting written permission from the Patent Office unless an application has been filed at least 6 weeks beforehand in the United Kingdom for a patent for the same invention and either no direction prohibiting publication or communication has been given, or any such direction has been revoked.

Notes

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- If you have answered 'Yes' Patents Form 7/77 will need to be filed.
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The Patent Office

27MAR00 E524491-1 D02136
P01/7700 0.00-0007224.9

Patents Act 1977
(Rule 16)



Request for grant of a patent

(See the notes on the back of this form. You can also get an explanatory leaflet from the Patent Office to help you fill in this form)

The Patent Office

Cardiff Road
Newport
Gwent NP9 1RH

1. Your reference RJ/N9638

2. Patent application number
(The Patent Office will fill this part)

0007224.9

24 MAR 2000

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)

Alan Derek Dean
Tall Trees
Hergya Hyll
Orsett
Essex
RM16 3JA
United Kingdom

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

7863442001 #3

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

4. Title of the invention System for Constructing Electronic Mail Addresses

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)
"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)

Williams, Powell & Associates
4 St. Paul's Churchyard
London
EC4M 8AY

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

5830310001

6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number

Country	Priority application number	Date of filing
(if you know it)		(day / month / year)

7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application.

Number of earlier application	Date of filing
	(day / month / year)

8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (answer 'Yes if:

- a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or
- b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or
- c) any named applicant is a corporate body.

See note (d)

Yes

SYSTEM FOR CONSTRUCTING ELECTRONIC MAIL ADDRESSES

The present invention relates to a system and method of creating a standardised set of electronic mail addresses.

- 5 The lack of an efficient and convenient system to locate an unknown electronic mail address is a major factor affecting the convenience and efficiency of electronic communication.

10 Electronic mail addresses can range from descriptive and easy to recall addresses that are based on a person's name or profession to complex addresses that are difficult for people to remember or locate by simple rules.

15 No pattern or standard has been set for the structure of electronic mail addresses which would allow easy indexing and location by people wanting to find an individuals electronic mail address.

20 This is in marked contrast to the world's telephonic systems where the number (address) is allocated centrally according to a national pattern. The referencing information attached to this telephone number is also collected in a uniform way.

25 This standardisation allows indexing by district or name and address and can be made available to potential users of the telephonic system in a variety of convenient ways. In particular for commercial, trade, service or professional requirements it allows the production of a directory or electronic mail addresses. It is an every day expectation to easily locate a telephone number by one of these methods in order to fulfil a need.

30 The present invention seeks to provide a standardised system for structuring electronic mail addresses so as to make them uniform.

According to an aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of generating a set of standardised electronic mail addresses, including providing a

personal name code indicative of the name of a person, providing a location code indicative of a known location of the person, generating an electronic mail address for said person based on said personal name code and said location code, and providing a database of said electronic mail addresses for a plurality of persons at one or more locations.

According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a system for generating a set of standardised electronic mail addresses, including means for providing a personal name code indicative of the name of a person, means for providing a location code indicative of a known location of the person, address generation means operable to generate an electronic mail address for said person based on said personal name code and said location code, and database creation means operable to provide a database of said electronic mail addresses for a plurality of persons at one or more locations.

The location code could be, for example, a postal or area code, a telephone area code and so on. The personal name code preferably includes at least a person's family name.

The preferred embodiment allows electronic mail addresses to be constructed and indexed so as to provide the easy location by a combination of some or all of family name, forenames, district, telephone area code, and for attachment of any amount of information relating to that address.

To attain this goal a structured address or structured addresses are created for each individual in a country, geographic region or state to which any number of subsidiary addresses can be attached (including existing electronic mail addresses). It is a simple matter for the invention to be used to associate any of the structured electronic mail addresses with one or several other addresses to allow for routing of electronic mail messages to and from a designated master address

The information that can be utilised for this purpose includes family name, forename(s), postal (zip) code (or country specific address locator code system) or portion thereof, as well as telephone area code (or region specific portion of telephone number). In rare instances other identifiers may be required for purposes of uniqueness, however these are easily added automatically. The order must be a standardised format but it is irrelevant which format is originally chosen.

The preferred embodiment provides for the creation of a set of electronic mail addresses in standard format and which can enable a user to identify through simple logical analysis the electronic mail address of a known person residing at a known location, without needing to know that person's chosen electronic mail address. The system could also provide for a user to enter a person's name and location code, such as postal or telephone area code into the system, with the electronic mail address being identified by the system itself rather than by the user.

Thus, the preferred embodiment has the advantage of being able to offer a standard method of addressing electronic mail messages to persons for whom personal details are known but for whom an electronic mail address is not known. These addresses can be published nationally or locally or can be assumed depending on the amount of personal details that are known.

In one embodiment, the structured electronic mail addresses once created would be suitable to distribution on a CD-ROM/s with a simple software program to search for an individuals electronic mail address or addresses. The service could also be provided on line or in paper form.

An embodiment of the present invention is described below, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a schematic diagram of an embodiment of search facility;

Figure 2 is a schematic diagram of an embodiment of results display.

The described embodiment is directed to the current form of electronic mail addresses but could equally be applied to other electronic or virtual addresses which could be developed in the future.

The preferred embodiment combines individual details into an index system to allow generation of structured electronic mail addresses and to allow easy searching of those details or a combination of those details to enable the location of individuals.

The individuals details will be collected from generally available sources of information or entered from details submitted and an index of these individuals created from it along with electronic mail addresses constructed from these details. The indexed information will be updated and added to by individuals who wish to have a more complete record of their personal details in the index.

All items of individual information will be added to the index where they are available but partial index entries will also be created, although electronic mail addresses may not be generated if the information is insufficient to do so. It is envisaged that the creation of the indexing system could be carried out automatically by accessing a database of physical addresses and associating one or more of the elements of the physical addresses or locations with the personal details of the person or persons at that location. The apparatus required to perform this operation will be readily apparent to the skilled person from the teachings of the general principles disclosed herein.

The major usage for the master index created will be as a real time search system that can function as a stand-alone computer based application, an on-line electronic service or in a printed form. It is envisaged that this master index and electronic mail address location system can be provided on-line such that users can access the information provided while using the Internet.

Index Creation

The details that are incorporated into the index system may include some or all of the following, but is not limited thereto:

5

Individual Name

Family Name

Forenames

Geographic Location

10

Locator 1

Locator 2

Locator 3

Locator 4

Postal Code (or Country specific address locator code system)

15

Telephone Number

Telephone Area Code (or Country specific address locator code system)

Non-unique indicator

The indexed information has the following attributes that feature in the above example index structure.

20

Individual's Name

The full name of the individual will be recorded including title, family or surname, forenames or initials as available.

25

Geographical Location

A country or region specific list of locations will be used to select the geographical details that are indexed. This list in turn will be used to facilitate searching of the index of individuals' details. The address information from the individual's details will be stored in three index items, 'locator 1', 'locator 2', 'locator 3' and 'locator 4'.

30

Postal Code (or Country specific address locator code system)

The postal code of the individual will be added to the index of individuals' details. All postal codes that are used in the process of generating the information index will be recorded in a form that will facilitate searching of the individuals' details index.

Telephone Number

The primary telephone number of the individual will be added to the index.

10 Telephone Area Code (or region specific portion of telephone number)

The telephone area code of the business will be added to the index of individuals' details. All telephone area codes that are used in the process of generating the information index will be recorded in a form that will facilitate searching of the individuals' details index.

15

Non-unique indicator

The majority of index entries will be unique due to the index construction, in the instance of an index entry not being unique an additional numeric indicator will be added to the index record.

20

The index format

An example of a master index record for an individual is as follows:

Individual's information as presented:

25

Alan D Dean

Tall Trees

Herga Hyll

Orsett

Essex

30

RM16 3JA

The individual's information would be entered into the index as follows:

Index Item	Detail
<i>Individual Name</i>	Mr. Alan D Dean
<i>Geographical Location</i>	
<i>Locator 1</i>	Orsett
<i>Locator 2</i>	Essex
<i>Locator 3</i>	
<i>Locator 4</i>	UK
<i>Postal Code</i>	RM16 3JA
<i>Telephone Number</i>	891457
<i>Telephone Area Code</i>	01375
<i>Non-unique indicator</i>	0
<i>Generated electronic mail addresses</i> (where ***** represents the electronic address there the structured electronic mail addresses would operate)	<u>alan.d.dean.rm163ja@*****</u> <u>alan.dean.01375@*****</u>

Searching the Index

- Once created the index can be searched either electronically or manually to locate an individual by using any of the following criterion or combination of criterion:

Individual's Name or part thereof

Geographical Location

Postal Code

10 *Telephone Number*

Telephone Area Code

- Matching one or more of these fields gives a user of the index a means of narrowing down a search rapidly to present the index entries that match their requirements.

Example of use of the Preferred Embodiment

A person wishing to locate the electronic mail address for an individual, can use the index to locate the information they need, for example:

- 5 A user wishes to locate the electronic mail address for an individual with a specified family name who resides in the geographical region known as Essex. Manually, the user may search the index to locate individuals listed as residing in Essex.
- 10 Alternatively, an electronic search tool could be offered to facilitate searching, which would have an appearance similar to Figure 1.

Following the input of one or more criteria a results screen would be displayed listing all individuals for whom matching information could be located in the index.

15

An example of how this information might be presented is given in Figure 2.

- In summary, the preferred embodiment provides a system for correlating the details of individuals with a standardised method of communicating with those individuals via electronic means. This will enable users to locate individuals in by personal details and physical location and then carry out communications electronically.
- 20

1/2

untitled - Microsoft Internet Explorer

C:\Patents\Email dir\indexsearch.htm

E-mail Index Search Tool

Title	Mr. <input type="checkbox"/>
First Name	A <input type="text"/>
Surname	Dean <input type="text"/>
Town/City	<input type="text"/>
Postal code	RM16 <input type="checkbox"/>
Telephone Area Code	01375 <input type="checkbox"/>
Telephone Number	891 <input type="text"/>
	<input type="button" value="SEARCH"/>

Fig. 1

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untitled - Microsoft Internet Explorer

C:\Patents\email dir\indexresult.htm

E-mail Index Search Results

Search Criterion	
Mr.	Mr.
First Name	A
Surname	Dean
Telephone	
Postcode	
Region - 2 digit	01375
Region - 3 digit	891

Search Results

Index Detail

Mr. Alan D Dean
Tall Trees
Hergya Hyll
Orsett, Essex
RM16 3JA
01375 891272
alan.derek.dean.RM163JA.0@index.com
alan.dean@freeuk.com

Fig. 2

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